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VIOLETTE ASSOCIATION

I'll begin with what is no doubt the most important news at this time. The trip to France has now been finalized. Due to circumstances beyond our control, we were unable to come up with details at an earlier date. Hopefully, you have not lost interest. This newsletter will perhaps reach most of you in mid-March. That still leaves six months before the trip actually takes place.

Enclosed is a brochure giving you the detailed itinerary. It sounds very exciting. I'm sure the trip will prove to be very enjoyable and emotional. Granted, the price does sound a little high. Surely it is not the majority who can take such a trip. The good news is that the price of \$1250.00 from Boston is for a group of 20 to 30. As the numbers grow, the price will decrease somewhat. I feel certain that we will have more than 30 people, therefore, the price should be a little less. On the other hand, one must keep in mind that the airfare could increase. As I said before, the trip is first available to members and their families. Then on a space available plan, friends will be able to join us. I would suggest that you send along the deposit for friends. I will keep a list in the order of which the deposits arrive. Then in order to complete our group we will turn to the list. Their deposit check will not be turned over to the Travel Agent until such time that we are certain that they can join us. Deposits from members and their families will be turned over immediately to Crimson Travel. In fact, the check should be made out to Crimson Travel in order to save me a lot of bookkeeping. Those of you who will be coming from other States may find it to your advantage to have Crimson arrange your ticket from your hometown to Boston as part of your complete tour. In some instances, the difference may be very slight.

Very shortly I will be losing access to duplicating machines, etc. for our newsletters. Therefore, this means that the cost of our newsletters will increase quite a bit. They will have to be printed by a printer. The price of bulk mailing has also gone up this year. Each newsletter may cost us a total expense of over \$200.00. The only other route to follow is to purchase our own duplicating machine. I welcome any suggestions you may have. Perhaps some of you know where we could pick up a used one at a reasonable price. We certainly cannot afford a new one.

Best wishes are extended to Edgar Violette #723 and Ida Doucet Violette #724 of Edmundston, N.B. on the occasion of their 50th Wedding Anniversary. The celebration took place last Fall but I somehow forgot to mention it in the November Newsletter. Please forgive me and "Best

"Wishes" anyway, Ida and Edgar. Best wishes also to Melanie Lacerda #657 formerly of Fall River, Ma., on her recent marriage to Timothy Petit. Timothy has ~~since~~ become a member of our Association. Best wishes to both of you. Melanie is the daughter of Joseph Lacerda #652 and Claire Violette Lacerda #653 of St. Albans, Maine.

At this time we extend our sympathy to Roland Violette #527 of Lisbon, Maine on the recent death of his mother, Emma Roix Violette. Our condolences also to her grandchildren, James Violette #576 of Windsor, Ct., and Lorraine Violette Curran #575 of W. Hartford, Ct.

What is new with the Connecticut Reunion in 1984? Not too much! One person has offered to be Co-Chairman of the event. He does not feel that he can do it alone. I had hoped that by this time another Co-Chairman would have come forward. Should any of you feel so inclined, our volunteer is from the Hartford area. Since the plans for the trip to France have been rather time consuming, I have sort of temporarily let the plans for the reunion drop by the wayside. However, the location must be settled. Will I receive another call when this newsletter arrives???

Another list of members is enclosed. We're getting there! Sooner or later you will have a complete list of all our 1060 members. Others are still joining us. We seem to be getting a few new members each month.

As you can see, another "family chart" is enclosed once again. I believe this was done just about two years ago. Percentage-wise, not too many members filled them out and returned them to me. Perhaps the sheets were misplaced or set aside. Please fill them out and return them for our records. Should you be absolutely sure that you completed the last one, just ignore the request.

Another request was that you send a snapshot of yourself so that we could make an "Association Album". Snapshots continue to trickle in. Those of you who have not yet sent yours in, please do so. Many were disappointed at the Van Buren Reunion not to have seen the "Association Album". It has not yet been put together because of the low response.

I'll be looking forward to hearing from many of you with either your deposit for the trip, your filled in family chart, or your snapshot!"

"We Are One"

Rita Violette Lippe